

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application, as amended, is respectfully requested. No claims have been amended, cancelled, or added.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the careful examination, and finding claims 2-11, 13-22, and 23-25 allowable.

Examiner rejected claims 1, 12, and 23 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,282,305 to Huo et al.

Huo discusses identifying pixels as either fat or not-fat. However, Huo does not teach or suggest identifying "tilts" base don the features of the histograms of pixel values. Rather, Huo specifies that "Features such as skewness and balance (defined below) of a histogram can be used to quantify the ratio of pixels with high gray level values to those with low gray level values, thereby approximating the local tissue composition (fibroglandular tissue vs. fat)." Huo does not even use the word "tilt" in the Specification, and does not address the concept of "correcting the image tilt." The only correction addressed by Huo is "background-trend correction" which simply applies a high-pass filter to remove the low frequency component. (Huo, column 15, lines 40-45).

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Huo does not teach or suggest "identifying a candidate tilt" to correct tilt in a mammogram, as recited in independent claim 1. Similarly, claim 12 recites " a candidate tilt identifier to identify a candidate tilt" and claim 23 recites " a tilt corrector to evaluate a plurality of candidate tilts designed to correct for the non-parallel imaging plates." Huo does not teach or suggest such a tilt correction. Therefore, applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-25 should be allowed.

Applicant respectfully submits that in view of the amendments and discussion set forth herein, the applicable rejections have been overcome. Accordingly, the present and amended claims should be found to be in condition for allowance.

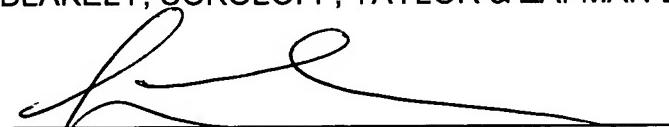
If a telephone interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Judith Szepesi at (408) 720-8300.

If there are any additional charges/credits, please charge/credit our deposit account no. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

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